

ABSTRACT

A winding mechanism retains a sheet material in a state in which the sheet material can be pulled out. The winding mechanism includes a

5     flexible sheet material, a winding shaft attached to one end of the sheet material, a force application device that always applies a force to the winding shaft in a normal direction in which the sheet material is wound around the winding shaft, and a braking device that applies a braking force to the winding shaft only in the normal direction. In other words, the

10    winding mechanism applies an appropriate braking force to the winding shaft when the sheet material is wound, but does not apply a braking force to the winding shaft when the sheet material is pulled out.